

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 027229

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ORIGIN IO-11

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG OCON UNESCO

SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE FOR UNESCO MEETING

PARIS FOR NESCO

1. FOLLOWING IS CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE ON MIDDLE EAST ISSUES FOR USE OF US DELEGATION AT UNESCO MEETING IN PREPARATION OF A DRAFT RECOMMENDATION RE PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC QUARTERS, TOWNS, AND SITES, WARSAW, FEB. 9-18, 1976.

2. BACKGROUND. WITH THE BACKGROUND OF THE ANTI-ISRAELI ACTIONS OF THE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO IN REGARD TO THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP AND THE JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS, PLUS THE EFFECT OF THE ZIONISM/RACISM ISSUE AT THE RECENT PARIS MEETING CALLED TO DRAFT PRINCIPLES

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PAGE 02 STATE 027229

FOR USE BY MASS MEDIA, THERE IS CERTAINTY THE POSSIBILITY

THAT SOME SORT OF ANTI-ISRAELI MOVE MIGHT ARISE AT THIS UNESCO MEETING ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION. THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD BE VERY ALERT TO ANY MOVES OF THIS SORT BEING MADE, INCLUDING ANY REFERENCE TO THE RESOLUTION EQUATING ZIONISM AND RACISM, SEEK A DELAY AND REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR INSTRUCTIONS, WITH FULL TEXTS OF RESOLUTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. THE MAIN EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARD SEEING THAT THE DISCUSSION OF THE BASIC ISSUE OF PROTECTION OF HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS NOT BE SUBMERGED IN POLITICAL POLEMICS WHICH CONTRIBUTE NOTHING EITHER TO THE PROTECTION OF PROPERTY OR TO UNESCO ITSELF. THE TECHNICAL CHARACTER OF THE MEETING SHOULD NOT BE SUBMERGED IN EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES.

4. THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD WORK VIGOROUSLY TO PREVENT THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANY SORT OF ANTI-ISRAELI ACTION OR THE EXCLUSION OF ISRAEL FROM ANY ELEMENT OF THE UN SYSTEM. THE SENSITIVITY OF SUCH A MOVE, AND OF ALL MIDDLE EAST ISSUES IN UN BODIES, NEED NOT BE EMPHASIZED NOR THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE DEPARTMENT VIEWS THEM.

5. PARTICIPATION OF THE PLO. THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD NOT PROTEST OR QUESTION THE PLO'S RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, TO SPEAK OR TO SUBMIT WRITTEN STATEMENTS AT THIS MEETING. THIS RIGHT WAS ACCORDED BY THE 18TH UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE, AND ALTHOUGH THE U.S. OPPOSED IT, WE HAVE ACCOMMODATED OURSELVES TO THE MAJORITY DECISION.

6. THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE REGULATIONS ARE:  
RULE 67 B, RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE:  
QUOTE OBSERVERS FROM THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, RECOGNIZED BY THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES, MAY MAKE ORAL OR WRITTEN STATEMENTS IN PLENARY MEETINGS AND IN THE MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES, WITH THE CONSENT OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER. UNQUOTE.  
ARTICLE 7 B, REGULATIONS FOR THE GENERAL CLASSIFICATION OF THE VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF MEETINGS CONVENED BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 027229

UNESCO: QUOTE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE OTHER PROVISIONS OF THESE REGULATIONS, THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OR THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, ACCORDING TO THE CATEGORY OF MEETINGS SHALL INVITE THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, RECOGNIZED BY THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES, TO SEND OBSERVERS TO THE MEETINGS REFERRED TO IN THESE REGULATIONS. UNQUOTE

7. THESE RULES, IN EFFECT, ENTITLE THE PLO TO ATTEND EVERY CATEGORY II INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING, THE CATEGORY OF THE PRESENT MEETING, REGARDLESS OF THE SUBJECT.

8. THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD NOTE THE PLO'S PARTICIPATION TO SEE THAT IT DOES NOT EXCEED PARAMETERS OUTLINED ABOVE. IF PLO OBSERVER GOES BEYOND THESE LIMITS, U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD PROTEST TO CHAIRMAN.

9. JERUSALEM. THE UNITED STATES SHARES THE INTEREST AND CONCERN OF ALL NATIONS FOR THE NEED TO PROTECT MONUMENTS AND HISTORICAL SITES IN JERUSALEM WHETHER THEY BE CHRISTIAN, MOSLEM, OR JEWISH. WE ALSO ARE CONCERNED THAT MEASURES BE TAKEN TO PREVENT ARCHEOLOGICAL OR DEVELOPMENT VENTURES WHICH WILL BASICALLY ALTER THE CHARACTER OF THE CITY OR THROUGH THEIR CONCENTRATION ON ONE OR ANOTHER HISTORICAL PERIOD, WILL DESTROY THE EVIDENCE OF EITHER EARLIER OR LATER PERIODS. THIS DOES NOT MEAN, HOWEVER, THAT THE UNITED STATES IS OPPOSED TO ANY ARCHEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION, BUT, WE DO HOPE THAT EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO RESPECT THE HISTORICAL INTEGRITY OF THE MAIN CULTURES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING JERUSALEM THE FOCAL POINT THAT IT IS TODAY FOR SO MANY PEOPLE.

10. BECAUSE THE JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS ISSUE IS SO DIVISIVE IN UNESCO, THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD ATTEMPT TO KEEP THE JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS ISSUE (AS WELL AS ISSUE OF THE MOSQUE IN HEBRON) FROM ARISING AT THIS MEETING AND/OR ASSUMING A POLITICAL CHARACTER. IF THE SENSITIVE JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS ISSUE -- OR THAT OF THE HEBRON MOSQUE -- SHOULD ARISE, THE U.S. DELEGATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 STATE 027229

SHOULD ASK FOR A DELAY AND SEEK INSTRUCTIONS IMMEDIATELY AND BY THE FASTEST MEANS POSSIBLE, WITH THE FULL TEXT OF RESOLUTIONS, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF A VOTE IS TAKEN BEFORE INSTRUCTIONS CAN BE RECEIVED, THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD VOTE AGAINST ANY RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL ON EXCAVATION ISSUES AND SEEK AS MUCH SUPPORT FOR THIS POSITION AS POSSIBLE AND, AS APPROPRIATE, MAKE STATEMENT DRAWING ON FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THIS SECTION.

11. ZIONISM RACISM. IF AN ATTEMPT IS MADE TO LINK THE DRAFT ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND THE UNGA RESOLUTION -QUATING ZIONISM AND RACISM (3379), THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD RESIST THIS VIGOROUSLY, SEEKING TIME, AND AGAIN REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. IF A VOTE IS TAKEN BEFORE FURTHER

INSTRUCTIONS CAN BE RECEIVED, THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD  
VOTE NO, SEEKING AS MUCH SUPPORT AS POSSIBLE. IF THE  
MOVE SUCCEEDS, THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD LEAVE THE  
CONFERENCE.  
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